



BACKGROUND

Information about the Conservancy, Park and Partners

History on the conservancy:

The Cassiar Iskut-Stikine Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP), which was developed in 2000 and encompasses 5.2 million hectares, recommended the establishment of several new protected areas in northwestern B.C. The LRMP also recommended that if the mineral tenures in an area next to Mount Edziza Provincial Park became inactive, the area should be added to the park.

Rather than adding the Ice Mountain area to the existing Mount Edziza Park, recent government-to-government discussions with the Tahltan recommended the area be designated as a conservancy. Conservancies are established to explicitly recognize the importance of an area to First Nations for social, ceremonial and cultural uses. They also enable the continuation of traditional Aboriginal uses and provide flexibility to ensure opportunities for low impact, compatible economic activities. The first conservancies in B.C. were designated in 2006 following government-to-government negotiations with First Nations on land use plans for the central and north coast.

Mount Edziza Provincial Park:

Mount Edziza Provincial Park was established in 1972 and spans more than 230,000 hectares of the Tahltan Highlands. The remote park, which can only be accessed by trails or a float plane, showcases a spectacular volcanic landscape that includes lava flows, basalt plateaus, cinder fields and cinder cones.

The Mount Edziza area has been a major source of obsidian for Indigenous people for the last 9,000 to 10,000 years and is highly valued by the Tahltan people. Obsidian is a volcanic glass-like rock that has many uses including arrowheads and various types of knives. Obsidian quarries and workshops have been found in several areas around Mount Edziza with 112 sites documented in the park. Many additional sites have recently been found by Tahltan Land Claim and Traditional Use research.

About the Tahltan Nation:

The Tahltan Central Government (TCG) is the administrative governing body of the Tahltan Nation. The Iskut Band and the Tahltan Band continue to govern Tahltan interests with respect to the Indian Act in the communities of Iskut, Dease Lake and Telegraph Creek. The TCG is the representative government of the Tahltan Nation with respect to the inherent and collective Aboriginal title and rights shared by all Tahltan people.

The Tahltan Nation's Territory spans 95,933 square km of northwest British Columbia or the equivalent of 11 per cent of the province. Tahltan Territory includes 70 per cent of BC's Golden Triangle – a world-class mining jurisdiction with a thriving mineral exploration sector. To learn more visit: www.tahltan.org



About the BC Parks Foundation:

The BC Parks Foundation is the official charitable partner of BC's world class parks system. It is helping create the best park system in the world by working with British Columbians to protect, enhance and sustain B.C.'s parks, while inspiring and connecting people to them. To learn more, visit: www.bcparksfoundation.ca

About the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC):

The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) is the nation's leading not-for-profit, private land conservation organization, working to protect our most important natural areas and the species they sustain. Since 1962, NCC and its partners have helped to protect 14 million hectares (35 million acres), coast to coast to coast. To learn more, visit www.natureconservancy.ca

The Government of Canada's Natural Heritage Conservation Program (NHCP) is a unique public-private partnership to support new protected and conserved areas by securing private lands and private interests in lands. The program is managed by the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC). Federal funds invested in the program are matched with contributions raised by NCC and its partners, Ducks Unlimited Canada and the country's land trust community.

About Skeena Resources Limited:

Skeena Resources Limited is a Canadian mining exploration company focused on revitalizing the past-producing Eskay Creek gold-silver mine located in Tahltan Territory in the Golden Triangle of northwest British Columbia, Canada. The Company released a robust Preliminary Economic Assessment in late 2019 and is currently focused on infill and exploration drilling to advance Eskay Creek to full feasibility by the end of 2021. Additionally, Skeena continues exploration programs at the past-producing Snip gold mine. To learn more, visit: <http://www.skeenaresources.com>

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